

Fourty-Seven Counties Receive Disaster Designation

Farmers, Ranchers Eligible for Emergency Loans

Washington, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced that **Barton, Cheyenne, Cloud, Decatur, Edwards, Ellis, Ellsworth, Finney, Ford, Gove, Graham, Grant, Gray, Greeley, Hamilton, Haskell, Hodgeman, Jewell, Kearney, Lane, Lincoln, Logan, Meade, Mitchell, Morton, Ness, Norton, Osborne, Ottawa, Pawnee, Phillips, Rawlins, Republic, Rooks, Rush, Russell, Scott, Seward, Sheridan, Sherman, Smith, Stanton, Stevens, Thomas, Trego, Wallace**

and

Wichita

Counties have qualified for disaster designation by Secretary Ann M. Veneman, United States Department of Agriculture. The declaration is based on production losses caused by freezing conditions that occurred on April 7, 2004, through May 15, 2004 and by drought conditions that occurred from January 1, 2004 to current date.

"The designation by Secretary Veneman includes the majority of counties in the First District," Moran said. "The extreme weather conditions have proven very difficult for farmers and ranchers to combat. While this designation will not help all producers, it will provide some assistance during these difficult times."

Primary and contiguous counties are eligible for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Loan applicants are required to meet loan requirements. Additional

information can be obtained from local FSA offices in affected areas.

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